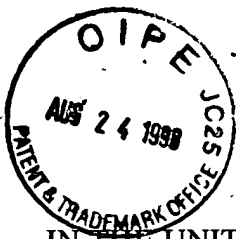


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Feygin et al.

Serial No.: 08/872,097

Filed: June 10, 1997

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
UNIVERSAL FLUID EXCHANGE

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Le, Long V.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date set forth below:

Signed: Marianna Tortorelli

Name: Marianna Tortorelli

Date: August 20, 1998

Chapel Hill, North Carolina
August 20, 1998

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please add the following new claims:

~~47. A combinatorial chemical synthesis reaction tool for providing fluids to a plurality of reaction vessels, comprising:
a reaction vessel support adapted to hold the plurality of reaction vessels in a preferred orientation,~~

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01 FC:203
02 FC:202